

BARNOLDSWICK

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1895.

Area, 2,129 acres; *Rateable Value* (1895), £10,715; *Inhabited Houses* (1871), 638; (1881), 820; (1891), 887; *Population enumerated* (1871), 3,187; (1881), 4,028; (1891), 4,131; (*Estimated* 1895), 4,300.

Inspection of District.—This District has been regularly inspected during the past year. Mr. Francis Lancaster, the Inspector of Nuisances, resigned his post in September last, and Mr. T. Biker was appointed to the office on October 1st.

Sanitary Condition and Progress:—Water Supply.—The town is supplied with water by means of a pumping scheme from Dry Hill Laithe, laid down in 1893, and this has yielded an abundant supply. This year shortness of supply was threatened in June, but it was found to be due to extensive leakage in the main in Manchester-road, and this was remedied. A Deacon's waste water meter was purchased by the Council in July, with a view to detecting any leakage in the future. A number of fire hydrants have this year been placed on the mains; and 20 new houses have been connected with the supply. The average daily consumption of water has been 13·0 gallons per head.

Sewerage and Drainage.—Contracts for the work were let at the close of last year, in connection with the scheme for sewerage prepared by Messrs. Brierley & Holt, engineers, of Blackburn, and the main sewerage of the town was practically completed at the end of the year. At the outfall works, the main effluent outfall and the finishing of the filter beds, and preparation of the subsequent filtration areas have yet to be done, before the work of private connections with house property can be commenced. I have to thank Messrs. Brierley & Holt for the following details of the work completed during the year:—

BARNOLDSWICK SEWERAGE WORKS.

Description.	Size of Pipe.	Length in Yards.
Intercepting Sewers.....	15 inch	1,064
“ “	12 “	1,267
Main Sewers along Highways and Main Roads	12 “	2,397
“ “ “ “	9 “	856
Sewers along Streets	12 “	42
“ “	9 “	1,957
		7,583

In connection with the above there are 74 manholes, 25 lampholes, and 13 flushing and ventilating shafts. Each manhole and lamphole acts as a ventilator.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Screen chambers in duplicate, for arresting heavy matter and detritus—completed. Precipitation tanks, 3 in number, each holding 33,200 gallons, are completed. Filter beds, 3 in number, with media composed of gravel, sand, and polarite, nearly completed. Total area of filters = 200 square yards. Buildings for mixing purposes, storage, &c., nearly completed. Five acres of land are now being laid out as filtration areas, to receive effluent from filter beds, being closely underdrained, and formed with requisite roads, carriers, and distributing wells, with effluent outfall, discharging into Butts Beck.

It is hoped, that the main sewerage works will be completed by the end of March next. It is found, that a further loan will be necessary for sewerage purposes.

Pending the completion of the main sewerage, the Council should frame a series of regulations as to private drainage connections, and a clerk of private drainage should be appointed to superintend the house connections, and see that they are carried out strictly in accordance with the regulations.

Excrement and Refuse Disposal.—A large number of the privies in Barnoldswick are still of the covered cesspit type, though in recent years many of these have been converted into privies furnished with moveable receptacles. In all new erections moveable receptacles are provided. At the present time there are about 226 of the former and 475 of the latter form. When the new sewerage scheme is completed, it is to be hoped, that the majority of these will be converted into some form of water-closet, so as to take advantage as far as possible of the water carriage system of excrement disposal. The ashpits, which are mostly dry ashpits, are as a rule uncovered, except those of recent erection. The removal of night-soil and ashpit refuse which has for some years been contracted for, was in March of this year undertaken by the Council, who for this purpose purchased two horses and two carts at a cost of about £135. Three men are employed in this work. They are also employed in leading stone for the roads, and at such times the scavenging is apt to be neglected, and does not appear to have been so satisfactorily carried out as when it was undertaken by contract. It would be well if the Council required a weekly return to be made by the scavengers to the Inspector of Nuisances of the number of pails emptied, and the number of loads of night-soil from tanks, and of ashpit refuse, instead of, as at present, merely presenting a time-sheet stating hours of labour.

Byelaws, &c.—The Board adopted the model byelaws with certain modifications with respect to “New Streets and Buildings,” “Slaughter Houses,” “Common Lodging Houses,” and “Nuisances,” and these were allowed by the Local Government Board on August 25th, 1891. It has also adopted a form of Regulations under the “Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1886,” and these were sealed on August 5th of the same year.

Division into Wards.—An application was made under the Local Government Act, 1888, sec. 57, to the County Council, for the division of this District into four Wards, and an Inquiry was held to consider this on April 24th. The Order was granted on May 8th, dividing the town into North, East, West, and Central Wards, with 12 members.

Barnoldswick Gas.—A Local Government Board Inquiry was held on January 22nd, by Col. Luard, R.E., into the application under the Barnoldswick Local Board (Gas) Act, 1893, for a loan of £1,500 for gas purposes. Sanction of this was subsequently received.

Infectious Hospital.—In 1893, during an outbreak of small-pox, this Authority fitted up a shed at the Gas Works as a temporary hospital, and this did good service in preventing the spread of the disease. It also was of service in 1894 for the same purpose, but has fortunately not been required during the past year. This arrangement, however, can only be looked upon as a temporary provision, and the Council will have sooner or later to consider the question of providing a permanent hospital erected with regard to the special requirements of the case, for the isolation of other infectious diseases. This can be done either alone, or in combination with other neighbouring Authorities, which latter method, if practicable, is more economical.

Acts of Parliament Adopted.—The “Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889,” and the “Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890,” were adopted in April, and came into force on May 21st. Parts III and IV of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, were adopted. Part IV came into operation on September 4th, 1895, and Part III on Jan. 13th, 1896. The Public Street Works Act, 1892, was adopted on October 23rd, and came into force on November 25th. While this Council is to be congratulated upon being the first Authority in the Combined District to adopt the “Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890,” it is necessary to point out, that the enforcement of this Act to a large extent, depends upon the provision of certain appliances, viz: a steam disinfecting apparatus, a public mortuary, and a public temporary shelter, and that until these are provided, the Act will to a large extent remain a dead letter.

Population.—At the census of 1871 the population was 3,187, and that of 1881 was 4,028. At the 1891 census it was shown to be 4,131, living in 887 houses. I have estimated it up to the middle of 1895 to be 4,300, living in 1,090 houses, or an average of 3·9 per house.

Births.—The total births registered were 183 in number (85 males and 98 females). This is an increase of 51 upon last year, and is equivalent to an annual birth-rate of 42·5 per 1,000 living, as compared with 31·7 last year, and 31·0 in 1893. The natural increase to the population is 82, as compared with 56 last year, and 53 in 1893.

Deaths.—The total deaths returned were 99 in number (49 males and 50 females). To these must be added the deaths of two persons belonging to this District who died in the Skipton Workhouse. This is equivalent to an annual death-rate of 23·4 per 1,000 living, as compared with 18·2 and 18·3 in the two previous years.

The deaths were distributed among the four quarters of the year as follows:—

	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
1891	9	23	13	18
1892	22	20	12	21
1893	19	11	17	27
1894	21	22	10	18
1895	18	25	16	40

The mortality as to age was as follows:—

Deaths under	1 year of age.....	36	} 43 under 5 years of age.
„ over	1 year and under 5	7	
„ „	5 „ 15	1	} 56 over 5 years of age.
„ „	15 „ 25	1	
„ „	25 „ 60	20	
„ „	60	34	
Total		99	

TABLE I.

Table showing population, inhabited houses, births, and deaths for the last twelve years 1884-95 inclusive, and also the average of the decade 1881-90:—

Year.	Population.	Inhabited Houses.	Births.	Deaths.
1884	4058		158	90
1885	4068		171	92
1886	4078		156	81
1887	4088		132	84
1888	4098		144	60*
1889	4109		140	64*
1890	4120		109	69*
Average for 10 years 1881-90	4072		141	77
1891	Census. 4131	877	151	64*
1892	4140	900	141	76*
1893	4150	1000	129	76*
1894	4160	1035	132	76*
1895	4,300	1090	183	101*

* Including deaths of persons belonging to this District who died in the Skipton Workhouse.

It will be seen, that there is a large increase this year in the number of both births and deaths.

TABLE II.

Table showing the annual birth-rate, rates of mortality, death-rates among children, and deaths in public institutions during the eleven years 1884-94, and in the year 1895.

Year.	Birth-rate per 1000 of the population.	Annual Rate of mortality per 1000 living.	Deaths of Children under 1 year; percentage of total deaths.	Percentage of deaths of Children under 1 year to registered births.	Deaths of Children under 5 years; percentage of total deaths.	Total number of deaths in Public Institutions.
1884	38·9	22·1	37·7	21·5	51·1	..
1885	42·0	22·6	25·0	13·4	36·9	..
1886	38·2	19·8	19·7	10·2	43·2	..
1887	32·2	20·5	23·8	15·1	38·0	..
1888	35·1	13·8	31·5	12·5	42·1	3
1889	34·0	15·5	25·0	11·4	32·8	..
1890	26·4	16·2	28·3	17·4	39·2	2
Average for 10 years 1881-90.	34·7	18·9	26·7	14·9	41·3	..
1891	36·5	15·4	21·8	9·2	31·2	1
1892	34·0	18·3	21·0	11·3	31·5	1
1893	31·0	18·3	21·0	12·4	31·5	2
1894	31·7	18·2	28·9	16·6	38·1	5
1895	42·5	23·4	35·6	19·7	42·5	2

The birth-rate for the year is the highest recorded. The death-rate is higher than it has been since 1879. This is partly accounted for by the high birth-rate and infant mortality. The infant mortality is higher than it has been since 1884, and indicates that nearly one in every five children born dies before it reaches one year of age. The percentage to total deaths of deaths of children under one year and under five years, shows a large increase, amounting in the latter case to 42·5 per cent. Among persons aged 60 and upwards there were 34 deaths, a percentage to total deaths of 33·6.

Mean Age at Death.—The mean age at death this year is 35·3 (36·3 for males and 34·4 for females), as compared with 33·0 last year, and 35·1 in 1893.

TABLE III.

Table showing number of deaths certified by registered medical practitioners, uncertified deaths, and inquests, with their percentage to total deaths, during the years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

	Deaths.			Percentage of Total Deaths.		
	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895
Certified.....	66	64	91	89·1	90·1	91·9
Uncertified.....	5	7	7	6·7	9·8	7·0
Inquests.....	3	..	1	4·0	..	1·0

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS IN 1895.

Locality.	Sex.	Age.	Cause Assigned.
St. James' Square	F	1 day	Premature Birth
„ „	F	1 day	Premature Birth
Townhead	F	3 days	Convulsions
Commercial Street	M	72	Cramp in the Stomach
Robert Street	M	2 days	Convulsions
Market Street	F	4	Found dead in bed
West Avenue	F	14	Convulsions

The number of uncertified deaths is the same as that of last year.

TABLE IV.

Table showing the morality from certain classes of diseases, and proportions to population and to 1000 deaths, in the years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

	Total Deaths.			Deaths per 1000 of Population.			Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths.		
	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895
1. Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases....	5	1	12	1·2	0·2	3·0	65·7	14·0	121
2. Pulmonary Diseases (other than } Phthisis)	19	18	31	4·5	4·3	7·2	250	253	313
3. Tubercular Diseases	9	11	7	2·1	2·6	1·6	118	154	70·7
4. Wasting Diseases of Infants.....	6	7	6	1·4	1·6	1·3	78·8	98·5	60·6
5. Convulsive Diseases of Infants	6	9	7	1·4	2·1	1·6	78·8	126	70·7

NOTES.

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever, and Diarrhœa.

3. Includes Phthisis, Serofula, Rickets, and Tabes.

4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast-milk, and Premature Birth.

5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

There is a decided increase in the number of deaths returned under the first two heads, viz., Zymotic and Pulmonary diseases.

TABLE V.

Table showing the number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases in the three years 1893, 1894, and 1895.

Disease.	Total Deaths.			Proportion of deaths to 1000 deaths.		
	1893	1894	1895.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	1	..	..	13·1	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	1	..	..	14·0	..
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..
Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	..	..	5	..	..	50·5
Fever	1	..	..	13·1	..	..
Diarrhœa	3	..	7	39·4	..	70·7
TOTALS	5	1	12	65·7	14·0	121

Under the head of Zymotic Diseases 12 deaths were returned, equivalent to a zymotic rate of 3·0 per 1000 living. Of these 7 were due to diarrhœa and 5 to whooping cough.

Scarlatina.—No death was returned from this cause, but 13 cases were notified. These were isolated outbreaks, and occurred throughout the year as follows:— One each in January, May, August, and December; two each in July and October; two in one house in November; and three in two houses in June. Precautions were given, and disinfectants supplied in all cases.

Diphtheria.—One death was returned from diphtheria in a child of 3 years at Gillions, in December. At this house the slopstone pipe was disconnected but untrapped.

Membranous Croup.—A single death was returned as due to this cause in a child of 5 months, occurring in Westgate in December.

Typhoid Fever.—One case was notified as typhoid fever at the end of December, in St. James' Square. The patient was a man of 37, and made a good recovery. The slopstone pipe at this house was disconnected but untrapped.

Erysipelas.—Three cases of erysipelas were notified during the year. All were females and over five years of age.

Whooping Cough.—This disease was prevalent in Barnoldswick in December, and 5 deaths were returned from this cause, all in children under 5 years of age.

Diarrhœa.—Seven deaths were returned from diarrhœa, and of these 6 were those of children under 5 years of age. A death was also returned in an adult belonging to this District and occurred in the Skipton Workhouse.

Slaughter-Houses, Common Lodging-Houses, &c.—The six slaughter-houses and two common lodging-houses, which are duly registered, have been regularly inspected. In one instance *overcrowding* was found in one of the common lodging-houses, and this

was abated after notice. There are no *noxious trades* in the District. No instance of *unsound meat* exposed for sale has come to my notice. The dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops are duly registered and inspected.

TABLE VI.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT OF THE SANITARY WORK, &c., completed in the year ending December 31st, 1895 :—

No. of Complaints received	52
No. of Houses, Premises, &c., inspected.....	90
House Drains Repaired, cleansed, &c.	5
Privies and Water Closets Repaired, cleansed, &c.	10
Privies and Water Closets supplied with Water	3
Water Closets provided.....	3
Pail Closets provided.....	20
Water Supply, Houses provided with	20
Ashpits, new provided	20
No. of Ashpits ordered to be emptied	21
Removal of accumulation of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse	6
Filthy Houses ordered to be cleansed	1
Overcrowding	1
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	4
Common Lodging Houses inspected.....	3
Slaughter Houses inspected	6
Dairies and Cowsheds inspected	10
Milkshops inspected	3
Premises examined under "Factory and Workshop Act"	1

FRANCIS LANCASTER and TOM BIKER, Inspectors of Nuisances.

The matters requiring the attention of the Council are :—

1. The completion of the main sewerage scheme and outfall works, and the framing of a series of regulations as to the private drainage connections therewith, and superintendence of the same.
2. The pollution of the streams by solid and other refuse being absolutely forbidden by the "Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, 1876," and the "Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890," steps should be taken to prevent such pollution in future.
3. To provide a proper "steam disinfecter," a "public mortuary," and a "temporary shelter," in accordance with the requirements of the "Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890."
4. To consider the question of the provision of a permanent hospital for the proper isolation of cases of infectious disease, either alone or in combination with other neighbouring Authorities.

FRANCIS E. ATKINSON, L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Barnoldswick Urban District Council,

February, 1896.

showing also the Population of the District, and the Births therein during each year.

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APPENDIX.

TABLE I.

Table showing Mean Mortality Rates for previous Decades :—

DATE.	Estimated Population.	Total Deaths from all Causes.	Death Rate from all Causes per 1000 living.	Deaths fr. in Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.	Zymotic Death Rate per 1000 living.	Deaths from "Fever."	Death Rate from "Fever" per 10,000 living.	Births.	Deaths under one year of age.	Death Rate under one year of age per 100 Births.
Mean for ten years 1841-50	1888	32	16.9	5.3	2.8	2	10	65	9.3	14.3
Mean for ten years 1851-60	2302	57	24.8	9	4.0	1.3	5	85	14	17.1
Mean for ten years 1861-70	2975	68	22.8	12	4.0	3.2	10	105	17	16.1
Mean for ten years 1871-80	3402	80	23.3	13.2	3.7	2.0	5	131	24	18.4

TABLE II.

Mortality Statistics of the Township of Barnoldswick during ten years 1881-90 :—

DATE.	Estimated Population.	Total Deaths from all Causes.	Death Rates from all Causes per 1000 living.	Deaths from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.	Zymotic Death Rate per 1000 living.	Deaths from "Fever."	Death Rate from "Fever" per 10,000 living.	Births.	Deaths under one year of age.	Death Rate under one year of age per 100 births.
1881.....	Census. 4028	74	18.3	6	1.4	2	4	142	22	15.4
1882.....	4038	93	23.0	10	2.4	8	19	115	24	25.2
1883.....	4048	72	17.7	9	2.2	..	..	149	11	7.3
1884.....	4058	90	22.1	7	1.7	1	2	158	34	21.5
1885.....	4068	92	22.6	5	1.2	..	..	171	23	13.4
1886.....	4078	81	19.8	21	5.1	10	24	156	16	10.2
1887.....	4088	84	20.5	11	2.6	3	7	132	20	15.1
1888.....	4098	57	13.8	5	1.2	..	..	144	18	12.5
1889.....	4109	64	15.5	4	0.9	2	4	140	16	11.4
1890.....	4120	67	16.2	7	1.6	1	2	109	19	17.4
Mean for ten years 1881-90	4072	77	18.9	8.5	2.0	2.7	6	141	20	14.9

TABLE III.

DATE.	Population.	Total Deaths from all Causes.	Death Rates from all Causes per 1000 living.	Deaths from Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.	Zymotic Death Rate per 1000 living.	Deaths from "Fever."	Death Rate from "Fever" per 10,000 living.	Births.	Deaths under one year of age.	Death Rate under one year of age per 100 births.
1891....	Census. 4131	64	15.4	2	0.4	..	..	151	14	9.2
1892....	4140	76	18.3	5	1.2	1	2	141	16	11.3
1893....	4150	76	18.3	5	1.2	1	2	129	16	12.4
1894....	4160	76	18.2	1	0.2	..	..	132	22	16.6
1895..	4300	101	23.4	12	3.0	..	..	183	36	19.7

BARNOLDSWICK

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1895.